

AIDS
FOR
FAMILY WORSHIP

PREPARED BY THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S COMMITTEE ON
UNIFORMITY IN PUBLIC WORSHIP.

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(First Week.)

SABBATH EVENING.

GOD and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ ; who has blest us with spiritual blessings during this sacred day, we pray for the growth of good fruit from our thoughts, meditations and exercises in church and house. We have been greatly blessed in the knowledge of that mystery which was hid from ages and generations. Seal our souls, we pray, with the Holy Spirit of promise, as the earnest and pledge of our inheritance. Pardon the coldness of our hearts and our neglect or evil use of opportunities. Enlighten the darkness of our minds and work in our hearts with that power by which Thou didst raise Jesus Christ from the dead, set Him at the right hand in heavenly places, put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the Church. Make each Sabbath-day to us a further step in our preparation for the glory that is to be revealed. Subdue the lusts of our evil nature and create us unto good works in Christ Jesus. As the passing days bring us nearer and nearer to the time when to us suns shall rise and set no more, deliver us more and more from the prevailing love of this world. Open our eyes to comprehend the length and breadth, depth and height, and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge. Befriend our friends, comfort the sorrowing, heal the sick, relieve the distressed and support the dying. During the darkness be Thou our sun and shield. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

MONDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Father and Preserver ; we give Thee thanks that out of Thy goodness Thou hast watched over us during the past night and brought us to this day. We beseech Thee, strengthen and guide us by Thy grace that we may spend it wholly on Thy service, aiming at Thy glory and the salvation of our fellow men. And even as Thou sheddest now the beams of the Sun upon the Earth to give light to our bodies, so illumine our souls with the brightness of Thy Spirit to guide us in the paths of Thine obedience. May all our purpose be this day to honor and serve Thee ; may we look for all prosperity to Thy blessing, and seek no object but such as may be pleasing in Thy sight. Enable us, O Lord, while we labor for the body and the life that now is, ever to look beyond unto the heavenly life which Thou hast promised Thy children. Defend us in body and soul from all evil. And, seeing it is a small thing to have begun well, unless we also persevere, take us, O Lord, into Thy good keeping this day and all our days ; continue and increase Thy grace within us, until we shall be perfectly united in the glory of Thy Son, our Lord, the Son of Righteousness, who shall replenish our souls with His eternal light and gladness. And that we may obtain all these blessings, be pleased to cast out of Thy remembrance all our past offences, and of Thy boundless mercy to forgive them, as Thou hast promised those that call upon Thee in sincerity and truth. Hear us, O God, our Father and Redeemer, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray, as He hath taught us, saying—Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

MONDAY EVENING.

O MERCIFUL GOD ; Eternal Light, shining in darkness, who dispellest the night of sin and all blindness of heart, since Thou hast appointed the day for labour and the night for rest ; we beseech Thee, grant that our bodies may rest in peace and quietness, that afterward they may be able to endure the labour they must bear. Temper our sleep that it may not be disorderly, that we may remain spotless both in body and in soul ; yea, that our sleep itself may be to Thy glory. Enlighten the eyes of our understanding that we may not sleep the sleep of death ; but always look for deliverance from this misery. Defend us against all the assaults of the devil. Take us into Thy holy protection. And, although we have not passed this day without greatly sinning against Thee, we beseech Thee, to hide our sins with Thy mercy, as Thou hidest all things on earth with the darkness of the night, that we may not be cast out from Thy presence. Relieve and comfort all those who are afflicted or distressed in mind, body or estate ; pity the helpless, be a friend to the widow and the orphan, succor the poor and oppressed ; deliver the tempted, sustain the sick and receive in mercy the spirits of the dying. Grant that the things which we have asked faithfully we may obtain effectually through Him who hast taught us to say, Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

TUESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who art light and in whom is no darkness at all, we praise Thee for having called us into the marvellous light of Thy gospel, and we pray that our hearts may be more and more enlightened, quickened and governed by Thee, so that our path may become as the shining light which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. During the unconscious hours, Thou hast kept us so that we have not slept the sleep of death. Grant us the will and the power to employ the life, which Thou hast preserved, in holy obedience to Thy commands. And, as we do always in our imperfect state sin against Thee, may the sense of our shortcomings work in us distrust of ourselves and a desire for a better and holier life. We pray for our Queen, our country and all mankind—especially all such as are stricken with bodily affliction or mental disorder, that they may be healed and restored. We pray that our relatives, friends, and well-wishers may be joined with us to Thee in the bonds of holy love. Through the labours of Thy servants in foreign lands cause the Sun of Righteousness to shine upon the dark places of the earth with healing in His beams. Suffer us not, Our Father, to lose by our unfaithfulness, Thy guidance this day in which we need Thee every hour, but be Thou our help and shield. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

TUESDAY EVENING.

O THOU, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, we Thy servants, would commit our souls and bodies to Thy care during the darkness. While the day no longer shines, cause the true light to shine within us through Him who is the light of the world. Though the feeble eye of sense be closed, may the eye of faith and love and hope be open. Because of the sin and foolishness of our lives we humble ourselves before Thee in repentance, and we cry to Thee for our deliverance from that which is of all our evils the greatest. Shed upon our souls that peace which the world can neither give nor take away. Without Thy blessing, we know that it is vain to rise up early or sit up late and thus to eat the bread of sorrows. Thou givest Thy beloved sleep. Keep before our minds that day which shall end all our days upon earth, when we shall sleep until the last trumpet wake the slumbers of the tomb. To Thee we commit all who are in danger on land or sea and all who are tossed with pain or affliction. Loose the bonds with which they are bound. Protect and prosper all such as are especially dear to us. Comfort the hearts that are wounded by bereavement and animate them with a well-grounded hope. Make effectual the means of grace, and may we see the good of the church of the living God all the days of our life. We hope in Thee, O God, henceforth and for ever. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O GOD ; who makest Thy beloved to dwell in safety, we praise Thee for the return of another day. We have lain down ; we have slept ; we have awakened ; for Thou hast sustained us. As the days come and go, help us to mark, with the flight of time, the passing away of our life from the earth and to grow in wisdom as in days and years. That we may feel our need of a Saviour, convince us of our sin. We have been foolish, O God, and evil has dwelt with us all our days. Be pleased to deliver our souls and, as time passes and eternity draws near, fill our hearts with desire for that better life in which sin and sorrow shall have forever fled away in the communion of the saints in glory. Give unto Thy Son, we pray, the uttermost parts of the earth for a possession. Hear the prayer of the afflicted when they cry from the depths unto Thee. Govern the hearts of rulers that they may rule as subjects of the King of Kings. To our own Queen grant every blessing, and to this Empire righteousness, peace and prosperity. Protect all such as are in peril by land or by sea. Relieve the poor, the destitute, the widow and the fatherless. Help us to cast all our care upon Thee who carest for us. While we strive to provide things honest in the sight of all men, may we seek above all, treasures that wax not old and lay up an abiding interest in the life which is to come. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O GOD ; who didst raise from the dead our Lord Jesus, and didst give Him glory, hear we pray, the petitions which we present in His Name. Of ourselves and for our own sake alone we cannot look for an answer ; seeing that we have grievously offended the majesty of Heaven. Therefore we beseech Thee, through our advocate and intercessor, to deliver us from the condemnation and power of sin and from all the evil in the world that is caused by sin. If Thou seest meet to afflict us, deny us not Thy help, but overrule all trials for our growth in holiness and final victory. Having called us unto the grace of Christ, increase it in us more and more. Defend our minds from all corruptions of Thy truth, and so reveal Christ to us in the Gospel that we may love Him more and that we may live in Him and He may live in us. As night has come and day has ended, so may we prepare for the night in which no man can work. Grant us a strong and unshaken hope of a day in which the light shall never cease. Let Thine ever watchful eyes be upon us this night. Help the helpless and relieve the wants of the destitute and needy ones of the earth. With the consolation of Thy Spirit make the downcast mourner glad. Remember the poor of Thy flock and may Jesus reign over an ever increasing multitude in all lands. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

THURSDAY MORNING.

OUR GOD and King, hear, we beseech Thee, our voice in the morning and consider our desires and necessities. In fear of Thy holy name we draw near to Thy mercy seat and implore for our sins pardon and peace. Seeing that evil shall not dwell with Thee, loose us from its bondage and cause us to go forth to the labors of this day covered with the shield of Thy favor. Protect us from the weakness of our ever treacherous hearts and from the counsels of evil men. Let our thoughts and purposes be at all times upright and sincere, and the work of our hands lawful and right. Help us to follow Jesus in doing all the good that is possible for our station and opportunity. Guard us against sins of the tongue that we offend not Thee. For our fellow-Christians, our friends and our neighbors, we pray, that they may have all the happiness that is united with a godly living. Be favorable to our beloved Queen, and establish her throne in righteousness. Join with the distresses of the afflicted the consolations of Thy Spirit. While we speak, many are dying, and for them we pray that, when the world is vanishing from their sight, they may see by faith the King in His beauty and the land that is afar off. Overrule the affairs of nations that they may prosper, that Jesus may rule over the lives of men in all lands, and that the church may become the joy of the whole earth. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

THURSDAY EVENING.

OUR FATHER, who beholdest all men that dwell upon the earth, we praise Thee for giving unto us a revelation of Thyself and of our duty to Thee higher than nature affords, and for spiritual blessings greater than were possessed by Thy chosen people in ancient days. May we steadfastly know and feel that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by the faith in Christ. Grant us the righteousness which we cannot buy by any works or services or sufferings, but which is freely bestowed upon all who sincerely believe in Christ. Quicken our dull hearts by the power of the Holy Ghost and enable us to show our faith by our works. Deliver us from all self-deception and its manifold dangers. Being dead to the law make us alive unto Christ, who hath raised us from the death of sin that He may raise us at the last to live with Himself in glory. Protect this night and prosper always our friends according to the flesh. May the ties of nature be rendered perpetual by love to Christ, our Elder-brother. When the shadows close upon us, let Thy presence cheer the drooping spirits of the children of sorrow and mitigate all distress. Cause war to cease and peace to abound on the earth. Prosper honest industry and guide the human mind to discoveries in arts and medicine that may increase temporal happiness, and diminish the curse of pain and anguish. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

FRIDAY MORNING.

O THOU, that savest those that trust in Thee, we, whom Thou hast preserved during another night, would call upon Thee in the morning. Thou hast shown unto us from day unto day Thy marvellous loving-kindness. The lines have fallen to us in pleasant places and we have a goodly heritage. Yet we have not merited good, but evil; for we have provoked Thee to anger with our iniquities. Grant that we may feel unfeignedly how evil and how deadly have been our sins. Cause us to look into the depths of sin that we may seek Thy help to lift us out of the pit and set our feet upon the rock of Thy promises. Grant us a fixed and unalterable purpose to serve Thee in the ways which Thou choolest. Thou hast given a leader to guide, a teacher to instruct and a power to quicken us. Make Jesus to us the power of God and the wisdom of God. Merciful Saviour, we pray Thee to enlighten our darkness and bring us to everlasting life. Look with pity upon our infirmities. Give us such faith as may remove mountains of sin and sustain and increase that faith in us daily. Such blessings we ask also for all who are near to us in love and living. Upon the mass of all men send forth Thy quickening Spirit and make those dry bones to live. Help the poor, the sick, the suffering and the distressed. Be at our right hand this day, and show us the path of life. Our Father, etc., etc.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O GOD ; who hast promised in Jesus Christ to send upon Thy servants the power from above to teach and guide them, grant this night that Thy Holy Spirit may fill our minds with sacred truth and our hearts with sacred fire. Send the Spirit of adoption into our souls that we may call upon Thee as our Father. With fatherly care, Thou hast guarded and brought us safely unto this hour, when the shadows have fallen upon the earth and countless stars proclaim Thy glory. Heal, O God, our infirmities and purify our souls from the pollutions of sin and the defilements of that world in which we have this day been employed. Help us to look ever beyond this vale of tears and endure as seeing Him who is invisible. In our Christian life, deliver our minds from all such beggarly elements as are unprofitable and make us zealous for such things as are really and truly good. May we live upon earth as citizens of the Jerusalem which is above and free, which is the mother of us all. Make us one in faith and love with the saints on earth and the blessed spirits before Thy throne, who serve Thee day and night. We commit ourselves and all whom we love to Thy fatherly protection during our repose. Preserve us from evil thoughts and disturbing visions throughout the silent hours ; that on the morrow we may be permitted to serve Thee with strength renewed. Our Father, etc., etc.

(First Week.)

SATURDAY MORNING.

O LORD ; how excellent is Thy name in all the earth ! Help us to praise Thee with our whole heart and to show forth Thy marvellous loving-kindness when shines the morning light. May its return endear to us that pure light of Thy revealed truth which now shines upon earth and Him who is the bright and morning star. For ourselves, we deeply lament that we have been ensnared and are sunk into a pit from which none but God can deliver us. Stretch forth Thy hand, O Lord, and save us. Heal our backsliding and lead us in the way of life. Put a right spirit within us and lift us up from the gates of death. Righteous Father, we pray for the cause of righteousness in the earth. Be a refuge for the oppressed. Let not the needy be forgotten nor the expectation of the poor perish for ever. Arise, O Lord, let not man prevail, that the nations may know themselves to be but men. Protect our Queen and prosper our country, on which may Thy blessing rest until the end of time. Guide those who guide the counsels of the Empire, that they may deal justly and peaceably. Consider the troubles of the afflicted in body and soul, and make all their bed in their sickness. Mercifully help such as are distressed from any cause. Unite in a spirit of charity Thy scattered flock and heal the divisions of the church of God. Deliver Thy worshipping people from all superstition, heresy and will-worship. Raise up faithful men, who by sound doctrine shall feed the flock which Christ has purchased with His own blood. Our Father, etc., etc.

SATURDAY EVENING.

FATHER of all Thy believing children, we bow before Thy throne of grace. When the shadows fall, be Thou our light and our life. Thine eyes behold the children of men and Thou triest the righteous that they may not turn from Thee. Though we have sought to serve Thee this day, it has been with much sinful imperfection. Thy law compared with our lives reveals the bitterness of our bondage. Unto Thee, O Christ, we turn as our only deliverer. Lord, we believe, help our unbelief. Be it ours to say, "Lord, Thou knowest all things ; Thou knowest that we love Thee." Cover us this night with Thine almighty wings and give us assurance of grace and salvation. Look upon a benighted world and fill it with Thy glory. Feed and clothe the poor and be the helper of the fatherless. Comfort the widow in her desolation. Give wisdom to all pastors, teachers and church rulers, that they may take heed to themselves and to the flock. Let not the violent prevail against the innocent, and cause war to cease in the earth. Revive with showers of blessing the Church which Thou hast chosen. For such as are exposed to danger or distress by sea or land, we pray that when they cry unto Thee they may be saved. Be gracious to our kindred and make up to them that service which we cannot give. Whether we wake or sleep may we be still with Thee. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

SABBATH MORNING.

O GOD, on this day which Thou hast set apart for Thyself, we beseech Thee to grant unto us profitable meditation. Strengthen us in a fixed purpose, that with heart or mouth we shall not offend Thee. Be Thou a burning and a shining light in the midst of our assemblies. Keep us and all Thine own people from the paths of the destroyer. Grant that Thy true and tried word may not return to Thee void, but convert the soul and enlighten the eyes. As the sun goes forth from end to end of the heaven and there is nothing hidden from the heat thereof, so may the Sun of Righteousness shed light and love upon all human hearts and lives. Lord, who shall dwell in the holy hill where Thou dwellest and where Thou hast promised to be? Search and try us as silver is tried and thus prepare us for the courts of Thy house. Cleanse us from secret faults and keep us back from presumptuous sins. Make this day in Thy courts to us a day to be had in remembrance and better than a thousand. Help us to praise and magnify, because we love and honor Him who rose from the dead and brought in eternal salvation. May our life be hid with Christ; so that when He shall appear, we shall appear with Him in glory. Make known this day among the nations, Christ, the hope of glory. Let not Thine own people be moved away from this hope. Remember Thine afflicted saints and deliver the souls that cry unto Thee in their extremity. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

SABBATH EVENING.

ON the evening of Thine own day, fill our souls, O God, with gratitude and praise. Blessed be our God and Father, who has blessed us with so many and so great spiritual blessings? We thank Thee for election unto eternal life before the world was founded and time began to run its course. We praise Thee for such love as in eternal ages found delight in the inhabited parts of the earth and among the children of men. What is human love with its variableness to this marvellous love of Thine, O our God? Give us the devout affections of children whom Thou hast called from the love of earthly things unto the love of Thyself. Keep us mindful of the things we have heard and seen and handled this day. Enrich our souls with the treasures of Thy grace. Grant us the ministry of the Spirit; so that amid the changes of this life we may have the earnest of the purchased inheritance. For Thy servants of old, patriarchs, kings, prophets, apostles, martyrs and reformers, teachers, divines and eminent worthies of our church and for our own sainted dead, we praise Thee, O God, and while we adore Thy grace in them, may we receive grace to follow them. Speedily accomplish the number of Thine elect. Enlarge more and more the Church which is one in Christ in heaven and earth. Hear the prayer of the afflicted and preserve them and us in body and soul. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

MONDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who hast brought forth the sun to run its daily course, we would unite with a once more enlightened world in declaring the glory of God. Day unto day uttereth speech of Thee. But we confess that, while the world is filled with light, the light of nature shines faintly upon the paths of sin, and danger and duty. Thy testimonies make wise the simple and rejoice the heart. Help us to love Thy ways and never to depart from them. Thou hast given unto us a Saviour to be our guide to lead us along the path of life to eternal peace. By the love of Christ incline us to love all that He loveth. Touch the fountains of bitterness within us and cleanse the very springs of the heart. O Lord Jesus ; be Thou our physician to heal our spiritual diseases and put strength into our nature so that we may follow Thee. Amid the many and contending voices of this world may we hear Thy gentle voice and obey Thy commands. As we go forth to the work of this day, do Thou lead us by Thy mighty hand and inspire us by Thy gracious spirit. Suffer us never to walk in the counsel of the ungodly nor to stand in the way of sinners nor to sit in the seat of the scorner. Let us find our meditation and our delight in Thy law and especially in Thy gospel. Through the progress of the truth and the downfall of error, hasten the coming of Christ in all lands, and the glory that excelleth all the glory of this world. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

MONDAY EVENING.

O LORD ; who makest darkness and it is
night, we would again invoke Thy
great name. When the shades prevail, en-
able us in grateful remembrance to present
our evening sacrifice. Look upon Thine
anointed who for us hath entered into that
which is within the vail, and pardon all our
sins. Suffer us not to glory in the posses-
sions or pleasures of a dying world, but in
the cross of Him who died upon it. Crucify
the world to us and us to the world. We
bring to Thee all the heavy burden of our
sin and ask in faith that it be carried away by
Thy forgiving mercy. Let the peace which
Thy Spirit gives take up its abode in our
spirits—agitated as they often are with
troubled thoughts. Wherever we dwell in
our travels may we dwell with Thee. Be
merciful to all Thy people this night and
bless them everywhere. May those who are
joined to us by the ties of nature be doubly
joined by the tie of Christian love. Peace be
upon them and mercy and upon all the
Israel of God. May the afflicted commit to
Thee their souls and their sorrows. Give
unto the dying in their last hours the marks
of the Lord Jesus. Still in many hearts
the din of earthly passions. Ride forth in
majesty, O Lord, and reign over the earth.
May all Thy children walk in love, even as
Christ has loved them and given Himself for
them. Help us to sleep at peace with all the
world, ourselves and Thee. Our Father, etc.

(Second Week.)

TUESDAY MORNING.

O GOD ; who savest the upright, we offer unto Thee our morning prayer. Before Thee, who judgeth the people righteously, we humbly confess our sin, that it may be forgiven. Deliver our souls from that which is the death of the soul. If, through our common infirmity, there be iniquity in our hands, let there be none in our hearts. Let our intention be upright at all times. Help us to do good unto all men without exception, as we have opportunity. In providing things honest in the sight of all men, help us to remember that one thing is needful ; so that we may choose and seek to obtain that good part which no hatred can take away and no misfortune can lose. In our living, give unto us a singleness of aim that our whole being—soul and body—may be full of light. As we cannot serve two masters, may we serve not the mammon of unrighteousness, but that true righteousness which alone can satisfy the immortal spirit. Prosper the congregation of Thy chosen people, separated from the world. Wherever Christ is not known, cause the joyful sound of Thy mercy to be proclaimed, and give the uttermost parts of the earth to Him for a possession. Comfort all such as are afflicted and consumed with grief. O let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end ! but establish the just. Be favorable to our Queen, our native land and the Empire. Counsel our counsellors and promote peace in the earth. Make our labor this day profitable to ourselves and others. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

TUESDAY EVENING.

O GOD, from whom cometh our salvation, our soul waiteth for Thee. We acknowledge our sinfulness, as we feel that this day we have offended in word and deed, in thought, purpose and behaviour, and we entreat of Thee the forgiveness promised to all such as are truly penitent. Forasmuch as to us much has been forgiven, may we love Thee all the more. Help us to serve Thee, not with a legal obedience—not in the spirit of bondage, but with a free and joyful service. Being dead to sin, may we live no longer in sin. Unite us with all Thy saints in Heaven and in earth. While we rest in Thee by faith, enable us to spend all the years of our banishment from Thee in full content and tranquility. May Jesus be our Guardian, the Holy Spirit our comforter, and Heaven our eternal home. During the silent watches of this night, be Thou near to protect us from every danger and to fix our thoughts upon Thy boundless love. Leaning upon Thee as a child upon the bosom of its mother, may our soul be weaned from the world and firmly joined to Thee. This night, we pray Thee, to provide for the poor, and the suffering. Relieve the distressed, and support the dying. May the healing power of Thy grace penetrate the hearts of the mourning and the desolate. And in all states in this life teach us to say, "Thy will be done." Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who from heaven beholdest all the children of men, we offer Thee hearty thanks for the return of the day, and for the rest which renews our strength. As we are sinful at all times and our days upon the earth are few and evil, hold up our goings that we may never fall away from Thee. Judged by Thy law, there is no moral soundness in us. Shew us, O God, the path of life through Him who opened it by rising again from the dead. May the voice that called up Lazarus from the tomb raise us from the grave of our sin and pollution. So set Thy love before our eyes, so imprint it on our hearts, that we may truly love and constantly serve Thee. Where much is forgiven may we love much, and where more is forgiven, may we love the more. Look with compassion upon Thy church and make the divided tabernacles as one. O, that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! May the stone which the builders rejected be not only the head of the corner, but become a great mountain and fill the whole earth. Quicken the afflicted according to Thy word. For those who are in distress of mind and whose flesh trembles for fear of Thee, we pray that Thou wouldst lead them in a plain path to peace and comfort. For the oppression of the poor and the sighing of the needy, arise, O Lord, and be their defence. Order our steps this day so that we may walk before Thee in all our ways. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

FATHER of all, now when the day has closed and the evening shades prevail, hear, we pray, our evening prayer. While Thou art near, Thy people need not fear the darkest hours. Forgive us this day all the evil we may have done, for the sake of Him who was wounded for our transgressions and bore the load which no mere human strength could endure. By taking up the yoke which Jesus offers to us may our troubled souls find peace and repose. Lead us nearer unto Thee that we may have such joy as neither want can impair, nor death itself can destroy. Wean our hearts from this vain world and fix them ever more upon the joys that are to come. While this body is our home may we mourn our absent Lord. May we long to see what faith holds and hope conceives. May Thy Spirit seal our souls for the holy and happy communion of Thy saints in glory. Look in compassion upon a world that lieth in wickedness, and set free the prisoners whom Satan hath bound. Remove the blindness that has come to Thine ancient people, that they may be saved. Restore the candlestick that has been taken away from Eastern lands by the conquest and reign of the False Prophet. Destroy the counsels of the wicked and prosper Thy kingdom all over the world. This night compose our minds with peace, refresh our bodies with rest and give us by faith a foretaste of that rest which remaineth for the people of God. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

THURSDAY MORNING.

O LORD, who keepest Israel, we call upon Thee in the morning. While darkness has filled the earth and the senses of men, Thou hast never slumbered. While many have passed the night in sighs and tears, we have been strengthened and refreshed. Blessed be God, who doeth for us, in us and around us, all things well. We beseech Thee to deliver us from the oppression of our sinful nature. Rebuke our sins ; for none are so cruel to us as ourselves. Jesus, Thou Saviour of the world, open our eyes to behold Thee. As our physician, heal our infirmities. Grant us heavenly wisdom that we may love and delight in Thee. May we look upon all things as passing away, on ourselves also as soon to pass away with them. Keep us from all sin and deal with us at all times just as Thou wilt ; for we desire to live only unto Thee. Grant that we may rest in Thee and thus be in peace. Blessed be God who is our rock, and let the God of our salvation be exalted. Continue Thy loving-kindness unto our Queen and our country. Defend the Empire from aggression and let no strivings of the people bring disorder. Extend Thy holy church throughout the world and imbue its members with supreme love to Thee, love for one another and compassion for a sinning and dying world. Comfort the afflicted, relieve the distressed, and give the courage of faith and hope to the souls that are about to leave the body. Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

THURSDAY EVENING.

O GOD, who givest breath unto the people and spirit to all them that walk upon the earth, we praise Thee for our continuance in life. Suffer us not in the constancy of Thy bounties to forget the Giver. Rather may Thy mindfulness of us make us more mindful of Thee. Along with the gifts that nourish our earthly life, bestow those gifts which support the life which is spiritual. Being dead in sin, our soul cleaveth unto the dust. Our purest desires and best resolves end in failure. Thoughts of vanity spring up constantly and lead us astray in a world wherein wickedness abounds. Thus we are tossed upon the waves of temptation. O Lord Jesus, save us, that we may not perish. Put forth Thy mighty hand, hold us up and keep us near to Thyself. Fulfil in our hearts the promise of the Spirit through faith. Support us at all times with the hope of a world where the sun shall never go down and the shadows shall forever flee away. Where all is vanity and vexation of spirit, be Thou our strong defence. Protect this night all such as are near to us in the bonds of nature, or grace, or affection, and let no evil befall them. For the afflicted and distressed we pray that Thou wouldst make them victorious in and through suffering. For the aged we pray that where human power decays and youthful vigor departs, they may possess the strength of a true faith and a living hope. Give light to the nations and make war to cease in the earth. When our eyes are closed in sleep, guard us from all agitations within and dangers without; that we may serve Thee better in the coming day. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

FRIDAY MORNING.

O GOD, on this day which Thou art adding to the days of our life upon earth, we wait upon Thee. The daily returning gifts of Thy providence teach us Thy gracious designs towards the children of men. Thou desirest not the death of sinners, but that they may live. Be pleased, O Lord, for Thy name's sake, to pardon our iniquity, for it is great. There is no way for our deliverance but a full and free forgiveness in and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, the Son of Thy love. Remember not the sins of our youth nor the transgressions of our riper years. Neither the labor of our hands nor the pains of our body, nor the anguish of our spirits, nor the sacrifice of our life, can deliver us, but Thou by Thy mercies, which have been from of old, canst save us. O our God, we beseech Thee to quicken us through Thy Spirit and bestow upon our sinful nature that holiness which reflects Thine own perfections. Help us this day to employ the gifts of Thy bounty to Thy glory, not in riot or luxury, nor in greed and covetousness, but in moderation and liberality ; seeing that man liveth not by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth from Thee. Evermore may we feed upon Jesus Christ as the bread of life. Send forth into all lands that truth which nourishes the human spirit and raise up messengers of peace among benighted nations. May the pastors of Thy flock take heed to their ministry that they fill it. Prosper Thy holy church in all the world, and comfort all poor and afflicted people. Support us this day in the work of our hands, that it may be begun, continued and ended in Thee. Our Father, etc.

(Second Week.)

FRIDAY EVENING.

O GOD, the Father of Jesus Christ, we praise Thee for the enjoyment of temporal things along with the dispensation of Thy grace and the revelation of Thine infinite love. Grant unto us saving knowledge in the mystery of Christ as revealed and as the true and faithful witness, "the first-born from the dead," the bright and morning star. Discover unto our dark and dull minds, by the revelation of Thy Spirit, the unsearchable riches of Christ, and make us partakers of His redemption. Creator of all things by Him who is the brightness of Thy glory, we pray Thee to make us new creatures in Him. Write our names in the book of life as no longer strangers and foreigners, but as fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God. Build us upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets in that spiritual house of which Jesus is the corner-stone. Enrol us as true members of a society which can never be destroyed. Make us polished stones in the living temple of the living God. As we are about to commit our bodies and souls to the slumbers of the night, we pray that the hours of sleep may bring health and repose to our weariness. Look in mercy upon the families of mankind, and remove or lessen, as far as may be, the miseries of a sinful and dying world. Make known by the Church unto men the manifold wisdom of God. Give us understanding of the gospel that we may tell to others what we have received. Cover with Thine almighty wings all our friends and kindred, and make them one with us in faith, hope and love. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

SATURDAY MORNING.

O GOD, how great are the works by which Thou dost make us glad ! Thou hast restored the light and scattered the darkness ; so that our eyes again behold the beauty of the earth and the beauty of the skies. Truly the light is sweet, and it is a pleasant thing to behold the sun. Let not earthly joys blind us to the sinful, suffering and dying state of man upon the earth. Help us to seek for a happiness greater and fuller than all the enjoyments of sense. May we feel the vanity of the world and of all worldly delights. While we admire all that is lovely in the world, may we learn to love Thee especially and so live for Thee. When our strength fails and the world fades from our sight, be Thou our portion and defence, and may Jesus, the Captain of our salvation, lead us through the gates of death into the palace of the great king. Let Thine eyes, O Lord, be upon the faithful of the land, and enlarge the bounds of Thy church, so that amid many warring interests Thy kingdom may still advance, till grace rise to glory, God save our Queen and our country. Exalt our nation in righteousness among the nations of the earth. Bless us in the season of the year and preserve to us all its precious fruits. Make profitable to men their labor in the field, the factory, the office, the study, the shop and the house. Sanctify to us all Thy gifts that we may use them soberly and purely and wisely. Purify all our work by giving unto our hearts just and upright intentions. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Second Week.)

SATURDAY EVENING.

AT the close of another week, during which Thou hast kept our soul in life, we would make mention of Thy loving-kindness while we bow around the family altar. O God of our life, who hast marked out our time by signs and seasons, and days and years, make us sensible of the sure and certain passing away of our life from the earth. In our passage through this world, suffer not our hearts to be so fixed upon it as to forsake the blessed hope of everlasting life. Day by day may we make all things minister to that life which is to come. Carry on the work of grace in our souls. May good thoughts become fixed principles, heavenly desires a new nature, and holy resolutions patient continuance in well-doing. Make our obedience more free, cheerful and devout. However bad the world is, may we serve Thee in it. However dark may be Thy providence, may we at all times and in all situations commit our way to Thee. May all places be safe to us where Thou art near to protect and bless us on our way. Make all our obedience a service of love, and let it be our meat and drink to do Thy will. Subdue all selfish desires, and create in us the fruits of the spirit which are love, and against which there is no law. Prepare Thy church and Thy people for the day which Thou hast made for them and for Thee. On the morrow, may the people be greatly blessed with the joyful sound, and may the children of Zion be joyful in their king. Give and increase in us true faith, and hear us when we each confess our faith, saying, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

SABBATH MORNING.

O THOU who art the Lord of Hosts, help us this day to ascend Thy holy hill and worship in Thy house in faith and love, also with pure hearts and clean hands. Thine is the earth and its fulness, the world and its inhabitants, the church of which Christ is living head, and the ministration of the Spirit which excelleth in glory. We praise Thee, O Christ, that Thou art the King of Glory, who didst open the everlasting doors and subdue the powers of death. Grant us this day through the Spirit promised, a resurrection from the death of sin and from the power of corruption. We hear within us the voice that commanded Lazarus to come forth from the tomb, and may we part willingly with the grave-clothes of worldly customs and sinful lives. Command the dry bones to live, and raise up a great army of valiant and earnest soldiers of the cross. Deliver Thy Church from superstition, will-worship and idolatry, also from deadness, formalism and hypocrisy. Grant a pure gospel, faithfully preached and honestly believed. May Thy people worship Thee in the beauty of holiness and receive a blessing from the God of their salvation. Pardon, we beseech Thee, our many and grievous transgressions. Take from us all impiety of thought or desire ; all envy, pride and hypocrisy ; all falsehood and deceit ; all covetousness, vain glory and indolence ; all malice and anger ; everything contrary to Thy will, O most holy Lord God. Enlighten our understandings, that we may know the wonderful things of Thy law, the greatness of Thy love in Christ, the mysteries of Thy kingdom and the riches of Thine eternal glory. May the ordinances of Thy Church, the communion of Thy saints and the rest of Thy holy Sabbath prepare us for the Church above. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

SABBATH EVENING.

O GOD and Father of Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in Heaven and earth is named, we praise Thee for the light of this day now ended, and for the light of Thy mercy which shines for ever both by day and night. We praise Thee for Thine incomprehensible love towards us through Thy Son and we bow our knee unto Thee, that Thou wouldst strengthen us with Thy Spirit in the inner man ; that Christ may dwell in our hearts by faith, and that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the length and breadth, depth and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, and that we may be filled with the fulness of God. O Lord, the bountiful source of all good, we bless Thee for our lives ; for the gifts of nature, grace and society ; for instruction in divine truth ; for the voice of Thy calling repeated so often ; for Thy patience, forbearance and long-suffering towards us who have often and grievously offended Thee ; for all the benefits we have received ; for the good we may have done ; for the enjoyment of present good ; for loving parents ; for wise teachers ; for benefactors never to be forgotten ; for brethren of one mind with us ; for kind friends ; for faithful servants ; for all who have helped us on our heavenward way. For all these and all other known and unknown, remembered or forgotten mercies, we praise Thee, and will praise Thee now and forever. Look upon the divided tabernacles of Thy church, and make those that worship in them one in spirit. May Thy people walk worthy of their vocation, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. During this night may we abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think, to Him be glory in the church throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

MONDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who hast made us again see the light, may we in the light love and serve Thee. Thou hast raised us up and girded us with strength. Blessed be the Lord who enlighteneth our darkness and setteth us in places where our feet shall not slide. Remember the offerings which we have made in Thy house and fulfil our petitions. Enable us to pay the vows which we have vowed, to walk in our integrity and to resist the counsel that leads to destruction. Give us grace to do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with Thee, our God. Keep before our minds the end of this, our life, which is swiftly passing away. As this world fades from our eyes, strengthen our interest in the life that never ends. Increase the army of the holy who may fight under Thy banners for truth and righteousness. Destroy the counsels of the wicked who lie in wait for the just. Revive Thy work in the earth and help Thy people to uphold Thy cause and to do valiantly. May all those who know the joyful sound take heed how they hear. Let not Thy word return unto Thee void. Let not the evil one carry it away, nor the heat of persecution consume it, nor the cares of the world choke it, but make it to take deep root and grow to fruit and perfection. Put an end to deadness, coldness and indifference among Christians, and rouse a quickened and earnest church to the work of converting mankind. Look in pity upon the places where of old the candlestick of Thy truth shone, but where now the false prophet reigns, and restore the true light. Cast down the empire of darkness, and hear the cry of the afflicted, the mourning and the distressed. Be the stay of the aged during declining years and months of vanity. Protect the young from the snares of folly, sin and shame. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

MONDAY EVENING.

WHEN evening cometh we seek Thee, O God, the rock of our salvation. The darkness is come and we desire repose. Along with the blessings of Thy Providence, grant unto us peace and salvation. May He, who gave Himself to the death of the cross to deliver us from this present evil world, be formed in us the hope of glory. Cause us to profit more and more in the things which we have learned, and to maintain zealously customs, traditions and beliefs consecrated by long years and by the memory of the fathers from whom we have received them. Let not labor for the meat that perisheth every moment, blind our minds to the value of that which endureth unto everlasting life. Kindle in us a holy zeal for the possession of heavenly realities, the things which we cannot see till we enter into another life. Enlighten our understanding that we may know the hope of our calling and the riches of the inheritance of the saints. Never may we be severed from the body of Christ, but may we labor for this end that Thy church may be holier, and the world may be better. Cover us with the shield of Thy mercy and, if we are spared to behold the light of another morning, give us thankful hearts to worship, labor and be joyful. Impart every needful blessing to all such as, though absent in the flesh, are present to us in the spirit. Make the afflicted to hear joy and gladness that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. Make the pains of the distressed in body a holy correction for righteousness' sake and comfort mourning hearts with a hope that maketh not ashamed. This night watch over us, and cause us in the morning again to behold the world and the countenances of living men. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

TUESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who commandest Thy loving-kindness in the daytime, and givest songs in the night, again we approach Thee, the God of our life. Though Thou hast made us for Thyself, we have lived more to ourselves than to Thee. We have profited little by our continuance in a world which is full of Thy glory. We have to lament that perverse and corrupt nature which draws us away from Thee, and hearts which bring forth evil thoughts and sinful works. With unfeigned sorrow we confess our sins before Thee and ask for forgiveness. We thank Thee, O Father of mercies, for the assurance of free pardon offered to the penitent by our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to correct whatever has been amiss in our conduct and dispositions, preserve us from falling into former sins, and may we grow wiser and better by our past failures. O Lord Jesus, say Thou the word and we shall be healed. As we this day enter once more into the busy world, guide us with Thine eye and guard us with Thy hand. While careful for this life may we seek first Thy kingdom. Lift up our thoughts to the home which is above and eternal, of which this life is the beginning. May we begin to live here as those who look forward to dwelling forever with Thee and Jesus Christ, and the spirits of the just made perfect. O God, by whom kings reign and princes decree justice, we beseech Thee to bless our Queen and our nation. Give unto legislators, judges, magistrates and officeholders, a spirit of righteousness. Shield our armies in the day of battle. Hear the cry of the distressed and put a spirit of compassion and sympathy into men's hearts. May we feel as members of one great family, especially as members of the household of faith. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

TUESDAY EVENING.

OUR FATHER, Who hast called us with a holy calling, help us to draw near to Thee with filial reverence and love. As risen with Christ may we seek those things which are above. May our life be hid with Christ ; so that when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, we may appear with Him in glory. Wean our affections from the vanities of the world and the allurements of sense and sin. As pilgrims and strangers here, may we seek the heavenly home which Christ has gone to prepare. In the spirit of Thy dear Son, we would cast all our care upon Thee. Help us to serve Thee according to Thine own revealed will. Make us obedient to Thy word and not to the commandments or ordinances of men. Enable us to employ diligently all proper helps to duty. In flame our souls with a devotion which no infirmity within or contradiction without can ever extinguish. May we follow the best examples and do the purest charities. Make us watchful against omissions of duty and neglect of opportunity. Thy bounties are more than we can remember and greater than we can know. Fill our souls with lively gratitude and adoring love. May our confidence be sure because not resting upon ourselves, but upon Him who died for our sins. By our own works we are condemned, but by His we are justified and forgiven. May tribulation work in us patience, and patience experience, and experience a hope that maketh not ashamed. Look upon Thy divided heritage and give it peace. Make all the ministers of the world fruitful branches of the true vine. Bless all those who bear good fruit and do good works in Thy holy church. Remember our friends and kindred, and fill us all with gentleness and love. Refresh us with health and strength for to-morrow. Our Father, etc.

(Third Week.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who holdest our soul in life, we desire to join with all saints in heaven and earth in praising Thee. All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father everlasting. Through Thy help and countenance we have lain down wearied and arisen refreshed ; for to Thy beloved Thou givest sleep and safety. While we receive Thy gifts and magnify Thy wonderful dealings with us, may we feel all the more our great unworthiness. Thy great liberality aggravates our ingratitude and iniquity. Our life is from Thee and by Thee, and yet we have not lived to Thee and for Thee. Make us to know wisdom in the hidden parts of our being. Deliver us from all confidence in the flesh. On Thee alone we rest ; for we find all other supports to be weak and insufficient. Many friends cannot profit, nor strong helpers assist, nor prudent counsellors advise, nor substance deliver, nor any place shelter, unless Thou Thyself dost all these things for us. Since Thou hast spoken by prophets and apostles, may we hear and obey. When Thou showest the way, do Thou, O God, give strength to walk in it. Give us grace to love Thy word fervently, to search it diligently, to read it humbly, to understand it truly, and to follow it steadfastly. Amid the many and conflicting opinions of vain and conceited men, help us never to swerve from the truth as it is in Jesus. Through Thy church send Thy word unto all heathen nations, that those who are bound with chains may be delivered. Mercifully visit Thine own people, and in this holy war beautify them with salvation. Greatly exalt our nation and bless our Queen. Raise up all such as are bowed down with sorrow, and relieve the widow and the fatherless. Help us to pursue in all our labor a reward beyond this present life. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O GOD, the strength of our life, Thou hast made us to see Thy goodness this day in the land of the living. Thou hast blessed us with safety and plenty and peace. By Thy favor Thou hast made our mountain to stand strong. Our life might have been spent with grief and our strength might have failed because of iniquity. We have been in bondage under the attractions of a wicked world. By Thy word, as well as by our own conscience, we are convinced of sin. Justly mightest Thou hide Thy face and trouble us with Thine anger. But Thou hast redeemed us, O God of truth, and given us the adoption of sons. Send into our hearts the spirit of adoption and make us heirs of God through Christ. Having been baptised unto Christ, enable us to put on Christ. Amid fears and discouragements, may we turn our waiting eyes to Thee. May each day, as it brings us nearer to Thy tribunal and Thy presence, bring our souls into more sincere and earnest obedience. Make our service joyful and free because we love Him who first loved us. Lord, Thou knowest all things ; Thou knowest that we love Thee. In Thy boundless love Thou hast redeemed us ; make us to be numbered with Thy saints in glory everlasting. Help us to live as those who look forward to dwelling with Thee and Jesus Christ, and the spirits of just men made perfect. We praise Thee for all those who have shone as lights in their generations ; a redeemed multitude that no man can number, and for our own sainted dead. In thankful hearts may their memory be ever cherished and blessed. Look upon the sufferings of the afflicted, forgive their sins and make them of good courage. During the shadows of this night, may our souls dwell at ease and our bodies be strengthened. Our Father, etc.

(Third Week.)

THURSDAY MORNING.

O GOD, all things continue this day according to Thine ordinance, for all are Thy servants. The earth, O Lord, is full of Thy riches. Thou hast been our help in the night watches, when our eyes were closed and the world of sense had vanished from our sight. Thou hast restored the light, and us to behold it. Therefore in the shadow of Thy wings will we rejoice. Almighty Father, may we receive Thy gifts as a foreshadow of Thy heavenly favor and of glories yet unseen. For the wonderful beauties and the no less wonderful uses of the outer world ; for the example of the wise and good ; for the friendship of those whom we esteem and love ; for the revelation of Thy name and will by Jesus Christ ; for the helps of Thy spirit and the promises of Thy gospel ; for all the mercies of Thy providence ; we give Thee humble and hearty thanks. We lament our past forgetfulness of Thy benefactions, because of sin abounding and evil hearts ever ready to wander from Thee. But Thou hast called us, O God, with a holy calling and made us to hear Thy voice of love and mercy. May we show our sense of Thy loving-kindness not only with our lips but also with our lives. Refresh our souls with the sweetness of perfect love of Thee and true charity toward all men. Vouchsafe to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the way of Thy law and in the works of Thy commandments, that both here and ever we may be preserved both in body and soul. Growing in virtue and holiness, may we live and die according to Thy will and be admitted to dwell in Thy holy presence for ever. God save our Queen and bless her with a full measure of health, happiness and prosperity. Make the Empire the stronghold of right and the refuge of the oppressed. Look in mercy on all who are brought low by affliction and sorrow and set them on high. With confidence, may we go on our way fulfilling every duty as it comes, and leaving all to Thee as a wise and merciful God. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

THURSDAY EVENING

O GOD, who hast been favorable unto us this day, now ended, it is good for us to draw near unto Thee, when the night cometh. In the daylight of Thy favor, enable us to seek Thy mercy. Since there is neither knowledge, nor work, nor device, nor wisdom in the grave, may we do with all our might whatsoever good our hand findeth. Let not our day of opportunity pass without improvement. When Thou art making our paths to drop with fatness, let us not be unmindful of Thee. If in our works this day we have forgotten Thee, or if we have grieved Thy Holy Spirit, may the thought of this touch our hearts with sadness. May our insensibility to Thy great love fill our soul with grief and heaviness. Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts, why do we thus grieve Thee? Thou hast endured sorrow and pain and death for us, and we have often wounded Thy gracious spirit. We turn to Thee, O God, with contrite hearts and entreat Thee to restore unto us the joy of Thy salvation. Having begun a good work within us, perform it until the day of Christ. Unite us for ever to Him who is the image of the invisible God. May He by whom all things were created, create us anew and make us partakers of His divine nature. May He who is the first-born from the dead, quicken us by His spirit and make us living members of His mystical body, so that, being one with Him, we may rise in glory at the last day. Restore in Thine own time visible unity to Thy divided church. Put away all bitterness and strife from among Thy servants and help them to behold the truth in love. Enable all Christian pastors to feed the flock which Jesus hath purchased with His own blood. Hear this night the cries of the destitute and miserable, and deliver all such as have no help in man. May the hearts of our beloved friends be knit with ours in faith, and full assurance even in the silent hours. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

FRIDAY MORNING.

O GOD of our Fathers, who hast brought us to the beginning of another day, look upon us as we worship Thee. Cause us to feel in some measure Thy goodness which continues from day to day, from week to week, and from year to year, and which was the same in the time of our fathers, and in the old time before them. But most of all, we thank Thee for Thy boundless grace and mercy in Jesus Christ, our once crucified and now risen and exalted Redeemer. May we perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy holy name. Every day will we bless Thee and we will praise Thy name for ever and ever. Humbled by a sense of sin and convinced of our weakness, we confess our guilt before Thee. O Righteous Father, our hearts by nature are unclean and our actions full of guilt ; so that we dare not build our hope upon a law which we have broken and which condemns us daily. May we run our earthly race looking to Jesus that we may receive a perfect righteousness, and a healing virtue may flow into our spirits, wounded by the serpent-poison of sin and disobedience. O Christ ! how glorions is Thy grace, which washes our souls from sin. May Thy spirit impart the sacred power of love, refine our dross and purify our obedience. Never may Thy precious blood lose its power till all the ransomed church of God be saved. Fill Thy holy church, now militant upon earth, with truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it ; when it is in error, correct it ; when it is right, confirm it ; when it is in want, supply it ; when it is divided, unite it. For all such as labor in the gospel ministry, we pray that they may be wise to win souls to Christ and Him crucified. Comfort those who are oppressed with affliction, relieve the poor and defend the widow and the fatherless, heal the sick and strengthen with faith and hope the dying. Guide the young with innocence, and upon the hoary head bestow a crown of glory. May He who trod this earth, guard and guide us this day. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

FRIDAY EVENING.

O GOD, who makest darkness and it is night, we ask Thy continued protection during the shadows. Though the eyes of flesh be closed upon the scenes of this world, cause the eyes of our understanding to be opened that we may look up to Thee, as the fountain of all peace and joy. Let not our spiritual affections become so dead that in the dark and silent hours we may not still aspire to know Thee. May we, whose eyes are blessed with the sight of Thy glory and Thy power in Jesus Christ, devote ourselves to Thee all our days. Remove from our conscience the burden of sin by pardoning grace, and fill our souls with joy and peace. Work in us all gracious desires and affections, according to the counsel of Thy will, through Him who hath redeemed us. O holy and ever blessed God, teach us to love one another with a pure heart fervently, to exercise forbearance and forgiveness towards our enemies, to recompense to no man evil for evil, but to be forgiving as Thou art. Father in heaven, may we be merciful as Thou art merciful, that in the Spirit of Thy Son we may follow Thee as dear children. Give us by faith such a lively view of heaven, and so raise our minds that, though we dwell here below, we may always have our thoughts, our desires and our conversation there. Enable us to follow Thy saints in all virtue and holy living, that we may with them come to those unspeakable joys which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee. Increase among the nations the dispensation of Thy saving grace; that the wilderness of sin may blossom with beauty. May all such as profess to know and love Thee be filled with wisdom to apprehend, and zeal to do Thy will. Help us to rest this night in peace with all men, in perfect love toward our friends, and in entire trust in Thee. Our Father, etc.

(Third Week.)

SATURDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who keepest our soul in life, so that we are among the living to praise Thee, our voice shalt Thou hear when joy cometh in the morning. Glory is due to Thee in all parts of Thy dominion, but chiefly from such as have known Thy saving health among all nations. We thank Thee that the Saviour promised by prophets and typified by ordinances appeared in the fulness of time, when the Word was made flesh and the hosts of heaven celebrated His arrival and manifested His glory. Before this great mystery of God incarnate, His being born, and that in a low condition, being made under the law, undergoing all the miseries of this life, the wrath of God and the cursed death of the cross, being buried and remaining under the power of death for a time, we bow in humble adoration. And now when His humiliation is ended and He is exalted far above all principality and power, and might and dominion, we would exalt the name which is above every other name, and worship Him in faith and obedience. In the temple of the world which Thou hast made, in the temple of the church which Thou hast redeemed, and in the temple of the heart which Thou hast made holy, Lord Jesus we would speak of Thy glory. Deliver us from the sin of unbelief and from the crime of crucifying the Son of God afresh and putting Him to an open shame. So govern our affections that we may love Thee more and more. Though flesh and blood cannot see Thy glory, may faith reveal what we desire to know, and in some measure may we comprehend with all the saints the love of Christ which passeth knowledge. Give unto the afflicted, we beseech Thee, hearts wholly resigned to Thy holy will, and to the bereaved such unshaken confidence in Thee, that chastisements and comforts may go together. Spare useful lives, and make them more useful still. To all Thy saints, give victory over sin and death, and to Thy holy church fulness of blessing. Be Thou our helper this day, that all our work may be to Thy glory, through Jesus Christ. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Third Week.)

SATURDAY EVENING.

GLORY to Thee, O God, this night for all the blessings of the light. Our days are a handbreadth and our age is as nothing before Thee. We are strangers with Thee and sojourners as all our fathers were. At our best estate we are vanity and our life is as a shadow that declineth. We therefore praise Thee that Jesus Christ has by His life, His doctrine, His works, His death, and His resurrection, brought life and immortality to light. All that was dark and perplexing before is now made clear, and the shadow of death is filled with light. This dark and gloomy passage has been trodden by the Prince of life who holds the keys of death and of hell. Merciful Saviour, deliver our souls from the corruption of sin, the parent of death. May we fear sinning more than we fear dying. Perfect Thy strength in our weakness, and enable us to resist and overcome the sins that do most easily beset us. Help us in this conflict with our spiritual foes. May nothing in heaven or earth separate us from the love of Christ. We are liable to doubt and fainting and fear, but Thou art mighty and the Captain of our salvation is made perfect by suffering. May we ever hear and obey the voice of the great shepherd of the sheep and follow Him wherever He calls us to go. As we are baptised into the death of Thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ, so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections, grant that we may be buried with Him, and through the grave and gate of death may we pass to our joyful resurrection, and to behold Him face to face, in the glory of His kingdom. We present our supplications for the people of God in all lands, and for our fellow-worshippers in particular, that they may be prepared for Thy service by a spirit of truth, unity and concord. May the thoughts of all this night turn to Thy word and the glories of Thy church and kingdom. Sanctify us body and soul, that we may tread Hear us when we each confess our faith, say—Thy courts with gladness on the morrow. ing, “I believe in God,” etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

SABBATH MORNING.

O GOD, who givest power to the faint, Thou hast delivered our soul from death and made us see Thy loving-kindness among the living. As Thou leddest Thy people in the wilderness, so lead us this day. As Thou didst smite the rock and give them water to drink when their souls fainted ; so refresh our soul with the living waters of salvation by Him who is the way, and the truth and the life, and cheer us with consolation by the mission of the Comforter. And as Thou didst feed them with bread from heaven, when man did eat angels' food, so feed us with that living bread, of which, if a man eat he shall live for ever. On this day which points back to Thy wonderful works in creation and redemption, we praise Him through whom a new spiritual creation is begun,—through whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins, and who is the first-born from the dead. This day purge away all our transgressions. While we dwell in Thy courts, may we be satisfied with the goodness of Thy house. Grant that we, who celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, may be freed from the death of sin, rise at the last day and arrive at everlasting joys. Purify Thy people from all guile, unite them in the bonds of love and peace, and pour upon them all manner of spiritual gifts. As Jesus died and rose again, so may we die unto sin and rise into a new life in Him. In the sanctuary cause us to see Thy power and Thy glory. Though our sins do always hinder our worship, we pray Thee to help us, O God, by subduing our evil nature. Lift us above earthly cares, interests and passions, so that we may feel that Thou art near us, that we are in Thy house, and that Thy church is the gate of heaven. Give unto all preachers a door of utterance to proclaim the mystery of Christ. Arrest the progress of vice. Let none that profess Christ profane Thy holy day. Magnify Thy power in the turning of many to the wisdom of the just. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

SABBATH EVENING.

O GOD, heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory. The glorious company of the Apostles praise Thee. The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise Thee. The noble army of martyrs praise Thee. The Holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee, the Father of an infinite Majesty, Thy true and only Son, also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. Thou hast this day made us to possess the green pastures of Thy word, and hast led us by the still waters of Thy grace. We have united with Thy church and appeared with those we love in Thy presence upon earth. We have presented our feeble and imperfect offerings of praise and prayer in Thy holy church, and among Thy chosen people. Alas ! with what prevailing sin and interruption we have sought Thee ? But Thou raisest up the humble and revivest the contrite. Be pleased, O God, to accept our offering through Thine infinite mercy in Christ, and quicken our zeal and love. Draw us near to Him in whom all fulness dwells. Make this day a step towards heaven, a preparation for its purity, peace and perfection, and may we be ever ready to hear the voice of Him who waits for us. Open the door of our hearts unto Him who knocks. Ever may Thy people be willing to hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. To all the world send speedily Thy glad message of salvation, that the thirsty and weary souls of men may receive freely of the water of life. May the shepherds of the flock be strengthened and cheered by their own doctrine. Grant us all that most excellent gift of charity, without which whosoever liveth is dead before Thee. Be pleased, O God, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. During the dark and silent hours protect and preserve us. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

MONDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who didst of old lead Thy people with a cloud by day and fire by night, we praise Thee for peace and preservation. Thou hast restored the light to our eyes and our eyes to the light. We have awakened, for Thou hast sustained us. Justly Thou mightest have made our Sabbaths and our solemnities to cease, and taken away all our comforts in life. Thou hast a controversy with us because we have rejected knowledge and done evil in Thy sight. Merciful Father, return unto us, take away our sin, and unite us unto Thee in righteousness and in judgment, and in loving-kindness, and in mercies, and in faithfulness for ever. May we be ashamed of sin, but never of Thee or of Thy ways. In our Christian course keep us ever looking to Jesus, who meekly bore the pain and agony of the cross to atone for our sins, and who was made a spectacle to the universe, that He might be Lord of all. May all places and conditions be welcome to us when Christ is near. May it be alike to us to go or stay anywhere, provided Thou continuest to be our guide. O spread Thy covering wings around till all our wanderings cease, and at our Father's loved abode our souls arrive in peace. Look upon the desolate, the afflicted and the distressed. Alleviate their woes and forgive their sins. In the wilderness of sorrow, speak comfortably unto them. Command Thy best blessing upon our Queen and our country, and may Thy covenant be with us as a nation; that our people may dwell safely in all lands. May Thy word be truly interpreted, widely preached and earnestly believed. Deliver the people from unbelief, superstition and profaneness. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

MONDAY EVENING.

O GOD, who hast again brought back the stillness in which Thy creatures seek repose, we now seek the holy place in which Thou hearest prayer. With the close of the busy day cause our souls to cease from the cares of the world, that we may receive the peace of God. Give us the rest of faith, that we may enter into the rest of fruition. Compose our spirits moved with the agitations of this life, and say unto the troubled waters, "Peace, be still." Our sins have filled our souls with divers spiritual diseases and unclean spirits have grievously tormented us. We have broken Thy law and cannot attain innocency. No power on earth can wash away the stains of our guilt. None can deliver us but the Great Physician. Lord Jesus, Thou Holy One of God, forgive our iniquity and rebuke our disorders, cleanse our hearts and make us holy. As day follows day, and night follows night, enable us to redeem the time from evil and do all the good we can. Unite us firmly with the Catholic church, which is one body, and in which there is one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all. Make all who are near and dear to us Thine own in the day when Thou writest up the people. May all the afflicted look to Christ, that they may be healed. Strengthen the sick on the bed of languishing, and to the dying make the day of death the day of birth into a better life. We thank Thee for all Thy servants who have left this world in Thy faith and fear and whose works do follow them. May the wicked who are still alive upon earth turn and not die eternally. While we sleep guard and bless us. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

TUESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who givest and preservest life : we magnify Thy name this day. We have to confess that we have too often employed the life which Thou hast given and prolonged in disobeying Thy just and holy commands. The wickedness of what we have done or attempted, as well as omitted, we humbly acknowledge and lament. Not to our deserving, O God, do we ascribe our preservation or continuance or temporal well-being, but to Thy sovereign favor and inexpressible love. Thou hatest sin and castest forth the wicked from Thy presence, yet Thou sparest the souls that seek a refuge in Thy grace. By great love and much forbearance Thou art leading us unto repentance. While we return to the life that is in the world, with all its burdens, contentions, cares and alarms, help us to live as being therein only for a short time. Seeing that when we go hence we shall carry nothing away, fill our hearts with that immortal substance of which death cannot deprive us. Till Thou shalt call us home, may we walk as strangers amid the splendid shows of life. In a world of trial and danger, hide us in Thy secret place and cover us with Thy hand. For Thy church, we pray, O God, that Thou wouldst bless it as Thine own inheritance and build it up for ever. Deliver the poor from oppression, and hear the cry of the afflicted. Wherever good men are persecuted for righteousness sake, give them the greater consolation, and confound the counsels of the wicked. Protect missionaries and evangelists, and overrule wars and conquests for the spread of truth and the overthrow of error, superstition and will-worship. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

TUESDAY EVENING.

DAY and night, O God, Thine unseen hand is upon us for good and not for evil. Make us thankful for the past and hopeful for the future. Thou hast begotten us again to a hope, founded upon a risen, living and triumphant Lord. Though each night bids us think upon the night of death, in which no man can work, the dawn of each succeeding day bids us to look forward to that resurrection morn in which the sun shall never go down, and Thy saints shall reign for ever and for ever. But amid our purest desires and brightest hopes, we are ever followed with the dark shadow of sin and inborn corruption. No day passes in which we do not offend Thee. Shouldst Thou with strict inquiring eyes mark all our faults and follies, we could not answer Thee for one of a thousand. None dare contend with Thee or try such unequal strife. Our hearts by nature are unclean, our actions full of guilt. When we confess our transgressions, most holy Father, we pray Thee to forgive the iniquity of our sin. In the blood of the Lamb of God may we be washed from sin and all its stains. Having been baptised unto Christ may we put on Christ, and may the path of our obedience be as the shining light which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. Grant us, we pray, the adoption, that we may obtain the inheritance. Keep us in safety and repose, and in all the dangers of this night compass us with songs of deliverance. Cover our dear ones with Thine Almighty wings. Illumine with faith and hope the troubled souls that cry to Thee, and cause the dying to triumph over death. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

FATHER of mercies, now when the sun again shines, we would renew our prayers and vows. Many have lain down to rest who shall see no more the light that shines upon us. Not in our own merits, as if we deserved such gifts and favors, do we trust, but in Thine own manifold mercies, and we come to Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who is our Mediator and Advocate toward Thy Majesty. O Thou, who didst for us tread the painful path of this mortal life, and endure sorrows like no other sorrows, help us to follow in Thy footsteps. Because of the infirmities of our flesh, aid us by the power of Thy heavenly intercession. Touch with Thy healing power the fountains of sinful desire and subdue every evil purpose. Let virtue go forth from Thy risen body, exalted to the throne of the universe, and penetrate all our life. Grant, O Father, that we may bestow this day wholly in Thy service, so that all our thoughts, words and deeds may redound to the glory of Thy name and a good example to all men; who, seeing our good works, may glorify Thee. We pray not only for ourselves and for those whom Thou hast already called to the true understanding of Thy will, but for all people and nations, and as they know by Thy wonderful works that Thou art God over all, so they may be instructed by Thy Holy Spirit to believe in Thee, their only Saviour and Redeemer. Therefore raise up faithful distributors of Thy mysteries, who may by life and doctrine seek Thy glory. We pray for our Queen, that her crown may be bright with the pure gold of equity, truth and holiness, and may her glory be for ever and for ever. Be favourable to our land and to all conditions of our people. Arrest all violence and destroy the power of the Destroyer. Grant peace and prosperity in our going out and coming in to-day and for evermore. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O GOD, to Whom the night shineth as the day, and darkness and light are both alike, we would again ask Thy help and seek Thy protection. With the night, cometh to us reflection upon the events of this day, remembrance of days past and gone, and of what we have heard with our ears and our fathers have told us ; what work Thou didst in their days, in the times of old. As we think of the vanished hours, we remember and deplore our manifold transgressions, the evil use we have made of our time and the opportunities we have neglected. Thus we are made to possess the iniquities of our youth. In the chains of saddened memory we are bound and cannot escape. By no efforts of our own can we attain to innocence. But, by the victory which prophets prophesied, poets sung and types prefigured, Jesus, our King and Lord hath delivered us. By the mystery of His holy incarnation, by His holy nativity and circumcision, by His baptism, fasting and temptation, by His agony and bloody sweat, by His cross and passion, by His precious death and burial, by His glorious resurrection and ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Ghost, Jesus hath wrought our deliverance. O God, Who knowest the secrets of our hearts, redeem us for Thy mercies sake. Arise, O Lord, for our sanctification and perseverance unto the end. Help us to trust in Thee night and day, and to praise Thy name for ever and ever. Never, O Lord, may we forget Thee or be false to Thy covenant. For our friends we pray that they may be of the household of faith with us. For Thy church we ask spiritual power in her ordinances, her missions, her pastors and her people. Hide not Thy face from the afflicted and cheer all such as are entering the shadow of death. This night may the peace of God rule in our hearts and home. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

THURSDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, we pray Thee to illumine our hearts with the brightness of Thy mercy. There is no light but Thine, without or within. As Thou liftest the curtain of night from our abodes, take also the veil from all our hearts. Let Thy blessed morning light, Jesus, Thou bright and morning Star, rise upon our souls. Quicken all our labor with the spirit of love, and may we walk in Thy steps and finish our work upon earth by entering at last into Thy presence. May we have the time of our departure frequently in our thoughts. Help us, O our God, to cast out all evil dispositions, to be unwearied in well-doing and to cherish every heavenly affection. May we begin to live here as those who hope to dwell for ever with Thee and Jesus Christ, and the spirits of just men made perfect. We lament that we have profited so little by Thy continued preservation of our life, and we seek forgiveness at Thy hands. By the Spirit bestowed, and by His work wrought in us, may we be assured of Thy forgiveness and show our faith by our works. Correct, O God, whatever has been amiss in our conduct and dispositions, preserve us from falling into former sins, and help us to grow wiser and better by past frailties and failures. May all that is lacking in us be supplied out of the fulness of Christ, who is God over all and blessed for ever. Raise up, O Lord, all such as are bowed down with bodily disease. Those that are troubled in their minds, comfort and strengthen. Unto dying saints show the light beyond and give the victory of faith. On this day be near to help us and to bless all our labor. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

THURSDAY EVENING.

O GOD, the righteous judge of all men, when the hours of light are numbered, and the solemn stillness wakes our souls to meditation, help us to call to remembrance our various works and ways during this day. In all things we are sensible of innumerable sins and imperfections. The things of this life have for us an absorbing and controlling interest; while the realities of the great future—unseen and eternal things—make a faint and fitful impression. We are agitated by burdens which Thou hast not imposed, by cares which Thou hast not permitted, by hopes which Thou hast not encouraged, and by sorrows which Thou hast not inflicted. O God, Most Holy, who art a tender and gracious Father to the penitent, show us, we pray, our transgressions as they truly are, pardon us for the evil we have done, judge us not for the good we have omitted, work in us to will and to do Thy good pleasure, that being sanctified by Thy Spirit, we may serve Thee in a religious and holy conversation, as true disciples of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. We offer up our supplications for this land of ours and for the Empire; for our Queen, that with the length of days she may have the blessings of goodness; for the pastors of Thy flock, that they may constantly and boldly speak the truth, and practice what they preach. Remember our kindred, and unite us all by love to each other, and by holiness to Thee. Be a shield to the young and a staff to the old and feeble. May parents rear their children in piety and children obey their parents. Be a Father to the orphan and a husband to the widow. Support the sick on the bed of languishing. Make the dying willing to depart and to be with Jesus. Work in us a fulness of holiness, of wisdom, and of spiritual life. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

FRIDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who renewest every morning the face of the earth, give us minds to mark and to admire Thy glory, and hearts to love and adore Thee. As the world is filled with light, so may our souls be filled with love to Thee and all men, especially our believing brethren. As our bodies have been refreshed by Thy power, so may our souls be comforted with Thy grace. May the calmness and repose of sleep be to us the emblem of that peace which the world can neither give nor take away. Holy Father, cause the light that lighteneth every man, that cometh into the world, to shine into our minds and enkindle the flame of heavenly love. By improvement in knowledge, virtue and holiness, prepare us for communion with our Redeemer and the saints in light. By the blessed volume of the book in which Christ speaks, and is spoken of, by the instruction it affords, the consolation it ministers, the immortal life it reveals, the glory it promises, illumine our path through this world, and direct us to the attainment of everlasting life. By the wondrous things of Thy law, and by the delights of Thy commandments, render our souls more and more dead to the light that leads astray, even when enriched with the splendor of genius. Give us grace to follow good examples, to imitate those that do well, and beware of them that do ill. Make us patient in adversity and moderate in prosperity. Set a watch before our mouths, keep the door of our lips, and fix our affections on heaven and heavenly things. May our delight be in the saints that are in the earth and in the excellent, and may we love and think upon the sainted dead. Add to Thy word the demonstration of Thy Spirit, that men may learn righteousness. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

FRIDAY EVENING.

IN this hour, O God, when deep sleep falleth upon men, we entreat Thy favor, and cast ourselves upon the arms of Thy mercy. In thoughts from the visions of night let no fear come upon our hearts, and no sin pollute our spirits. In wakeful moments, may we meditate upon the great and marvellous things which Thou doest, and upon the multitude of Thy mercies. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty. Most of all, we magnify Thine inestimable love in Him who died for us the winepress of blood alone, and poured out His soul unto death. Forbid that what things the angels desire to look into, and the heavenly hosts celebrate with songs around Thy throne, we should not contemplate with admiration and love. Let what Christ has done, suffered and revealed, enflame our hearts with sacred fire. Make all our life a widening stream, of which the love of Christ is the fountain. Thus to us to live may it be Christ, and to die may it be gain. May we see more wonders in his cross than in all the realms of nature or the visible glories of the universe. May the thought of the Saviour's love subdue all the assaults of rebellious nature, rebuke our follies and stimulate us to a holy zeal tempered with discretion. Let sin no longer reign in our mortal bodies. Amid the thorns of earthly care, let not the good seed of Thy word perish. This night, we pray Thee, O God, to bind up the wounds of the afflicted. May dying saints bid farewell to life in assured faith and hope. We bless Thee for all the elders who, from the beginning of the world, have obtained a good report. May the church be victorious in all the earth. This night enrich us with Thy loving-kindness while we confess our faith, saying, "I believe in God," etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

SATURDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, and most dear Father, who restorest our soul in the morning, honor and praise be to Thee for all Thy mercies. It has pleased Thee freely to bestow blessings so many and great that our cup runneth over; to create us after Thine own image; to redeem us with the precious blood of Thy dear Son; to sanctify us with Thy Holy Spirit in the revelation and knowledge of Thy holy word; to help us in all our needs and necessities; to protect us from all dangers of body and soul; to comfort us in all our tribulations; and to spare us so long, and to give us so large a time for repentance. As we have received these benefits, most merciful Father, of Thine own goodness, so we beseech Thee to grant us always Thy Holy Spirit, whereby we may grow continually in thankfulness, may be led into all truth and be comforted in all our adversities. O Lord, strengthen our faith, kindle it more into fervent love to Thee and our neighbor for Thy sake. Suffer us not, our Father, to receive Thy word any more in vain, but grant us always the aid of Thy grace and Spirit, that in heart, word and deed, we may sanctify and worship Thy Name. Whatsoever Thou sendest, may we be heartily content with Thy good pleasure and will. Let us not, O Lord, lack the thing without which we cannot serve Thee, but bless Thou all the works of our hands, that we may have sufficient and not be changeable, but rather helpful to others. In all temptations, hold us by Thy merciful hand that we may be delivered from all inconveniences, and so end our lives in the sanctifying of Thy holy name. Let Thy mighty hand be our defence, Thy love in Christ our salvation, Thy word our instruction, and Thy grace and Holy Spirit our consolation unto the end and in the end. Our Father, etc., etc.

(Fourth Week.)

SATURDAY EVENING.

O GOD, who didst ordain in the beginning, and in our creation, six days labor and a seventh day's rest, and didst Thyself rest on the Sabbath day and hallow it, we praise Thee for the past week, now ended, and for this holy Sabbath eve now begun. In the darkness of the night as well as in the brightness of the day, Thou hast preserved us from all evil. How precious are Thy bounteous and gracious thought unto us, O God? How great is the sum of them? If we should count them, they are more in number than the sand. The more we meditate upon Thy manifold gifts, the more we feel and lament our sinful use of them. We have labored more for ourselves than for Thee. We have sought the favor of men, which is a snare, more than Thy favor, which maketh truly rich. We have too eagerly pursued uncertain riches, forgetting that all the wealth and beauty of this world must be consumed in the grave, and that the glory of the rich shall not descend after him. Forgive our sin, O God, and help us by true and sincere contrition to turn from all our wickedness. Receive and comfort us who are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins. May our sorrow beget in us thoughts raised above covetousness, and create in our minds a firm purpose to obey Thee, and live for Thee. May there be in us the mind of Him who, though he was rich, yet for our sake became poor, that we, by His poverty, might become rich. Feeling always Thy presence, may we be a holy family before Thee, and be received hereafter into the family of heaven, for which Thou didst send Thy Son to prepare us, and which He has gone to prepare for us. We thank Thee for all Thy faithful servants departed; help us to follow them as they followed Christ. Hear our confession of faith, "We believe in God," etc., etc.

ON A COMMUNION SABBATH
MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast spared us to see this Sacred Rest Day, we give Thee thanks for the privileges of the Sabbath, and humbly implore the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may worthily use them for our good and for Thy glory. Humble us deeply by the recollection of our sinfulness, which we confess before Thee. We have broken Thy law, we have wronged Thy love, we have despised the holy example of Our Lord and Saviour. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, and forgive our sin. We magnify Thy holy name that Thou hast given Thine only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him might not perish, but have everlasting life. Give us grace to commit the keeping of our souls to Him in well doing as our only Saviour and the Giver of true holiness.

We praise Thee for the Sacrament of the Supper, by which Thou dost so tenderly remind us of His death for our sins. Help us to draw near to this feast of love with lowly and contrite hearts. May we partake of it with deep devotion and sincere faith. Make Thyself known to us this day in the breaking of bread, and send us from Thy table strengthened and cheered. Remember our fellow-worshippers with all needed grace, and our pastor with the power of the Holy Spirit. May he enjoy the comfort of Thy forgiveness, and many special tokens of Thy presence. Visit in Thy mercy those who are withheld by infirmity or affliction from worshipping in Thy house and communicating at Thy table. May all Thy true disciples throughout the world be blessed by Thy presence and enriched by the assurance of Thy love. Let grace, mercy and peace be multiplied to all who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.

WHEN THERE IS SICKNESS IN THE HOME.

O GOD, who art our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble, enable us to put our trust in Thee. Look down upon us in pity ; for our Redeemer's sake pardon our sins, and in the midst of trouble give us peace. Grant unto us in Thy mercy and loving-kindness the strength that we need, that with courage we may bear whatever trials Thou art pleased to send. Confirm our faith in the assurance Thou hast given us that all things work together for good to them that love Thee.

Remember in Thine infinite compassion the member of this family on whom Thou hast laid Thy chastening hand. Bestow upon the sufferer, if it please Thee, ease and repose of body, with all needful composure and patience of soul. Extend to *him* at this hour Thy heavenly support. Make *him* truly penitent for all *his* sins and help *him* to yield *himself* wholly to Thee, submitting with meekness to Thy will. Through the merit and intercession of our Redeemer be pleased to comfort *him* with the assurance of forgiveness and cheer *him* with the hope of eternal life.

O Lord Jesus, our Saviour, who in great compassion didst bear our sicknesses, we pray Thee to speak the word and our dear one shall be healed. Bless the skill of the physician and the virtue of the remedies, that *his* health may be restored and *his* days prolonged to serve Thee here. Help every one of us to say from the heart, "Thy will be done." And grant that whether in health or in sickness, in joy or in grief, in life or in death, we may be enabled to glorify Thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

AFTER A DEATH IN THE HOME.

O LORD, our God, who art the author of life and of death, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, hear our prayers when we now come to Thee for comfort and for light. Thou hast been pleased to send sorrow and darkness upon us, and we mourn under the shadow of death. We cast ourselves at Thy feet, O loving and pitiful Father, enable us to submit to Thy holy will. Help us to believe that this dispensation, although painful and mysterious to us, is sent in love and is fraught with mercy.

O blessed Saviour, who didst Thyself weep beside the grave of a beloved friend, fulfil to us Thy promise that Thou wilt not leave us comfortless. Turn not away Thine ear from our cry; hold not Thy peace at our tears. Make Thyself known to us as the resurrection and the life, and satisfy our souls with the assurance that whosoever believeth in Thee, though he were dead, yet shall he live forever.

O Holy Spirit, divine Comforter, be with us in these hours of sadness, and unfold more and more to us the mystery of living and dying, that our fear of death may be taken away, and that we may be able daily to die unto sin and live unto righteousness. Grant that having a true faith in Christ, we may not sorrow as those who have no hope, but may be able to trust ourselves and our dear ones to Thee, believing that those who fall asleep in Jesus dwell forever in Thy presence.

Now, O God of peace, who broughtest again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do Thy will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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IN A TIME OF TROUBLE.

MOST Merciful Father, the strength of all who seek Thee, be a very present help to us Thy children in this hour of sorrow and distress. According to Thy mercy remember us for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord. We know that Thou dost order our lot, that Thou dost appoint our prosperity and our trials. Thou dost not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men. In tender fatherly love, Thou dost smite us with Thy chastening rod. We humble ourselves before Thee and acknowledge that Thou art just and righteous in all Thy ways. Give us grace that we may glorify Thee by receiving with meek submission and gladsome faith whatever Thou art pleased to send. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, and let Thy boundless compassion cover the multitude of our transgressions.

O Lord Jesus, do Thou sanctify to us this time of trouble, and teach us the vanity of all earthly joys. Thou knowest our sorrows, the memory of Thy tender sympathy is our consolation and our hope. Of Thine infinite mercy be pleased to strengthen our faith, to direct our hearts into Thy love and into patient waiting for Thy will. Do Thou so plentifully endow us with the grace of Thy Spirit, that we may come out of this trial better fitted to serve Thee on earth, and better prepared to enter the rest of Thy chosen. When our tribulation has accomplished Thy gracious purpose of love may it be turned into joy. Help us steadfastly to believe that our light affliction, that is but for a moment, shall work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR A BLESSING ON OUR FOOD.

ALmighty GOD, forgive our unworthiness of Thy great goodness. Bless these bounties provided through Thy mercy, and help us to use our strength in Thy service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AFTER FOOD.

MOST Gracious and Loving Father, accept of our thanksgiving for our food and for all Thy mercies. As Thou hast satisfied our hunger, fill our souls with gratitude. May Thy goodness lead us to repentance, and Thy grace assure us of forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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